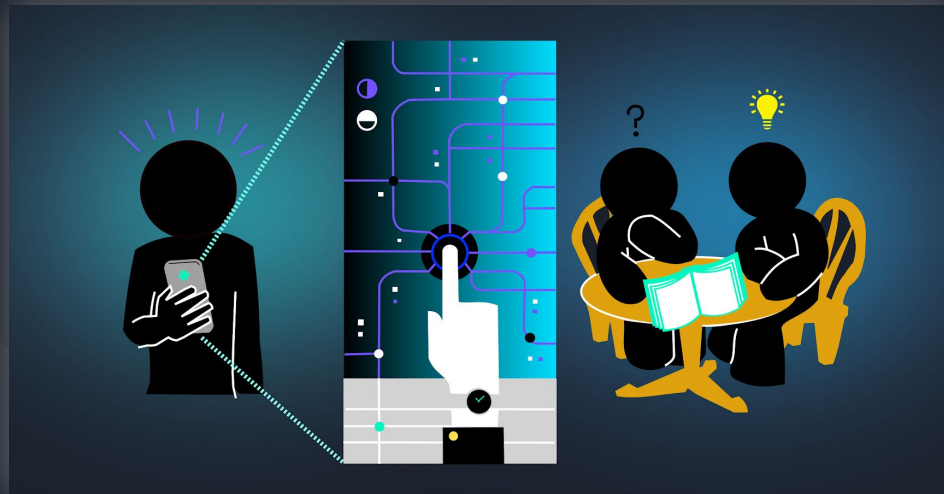


# Tutor Dash

Find a tutor. Be a tutor.

Old Dominion University  
CS410 - Team Gold  
Spring 2019  
March 19, 2019

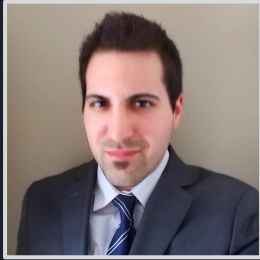




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# The Team



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Quality Assurance/Developer



**Jamauni Taylor**  
Webmaster/Front-End Developer

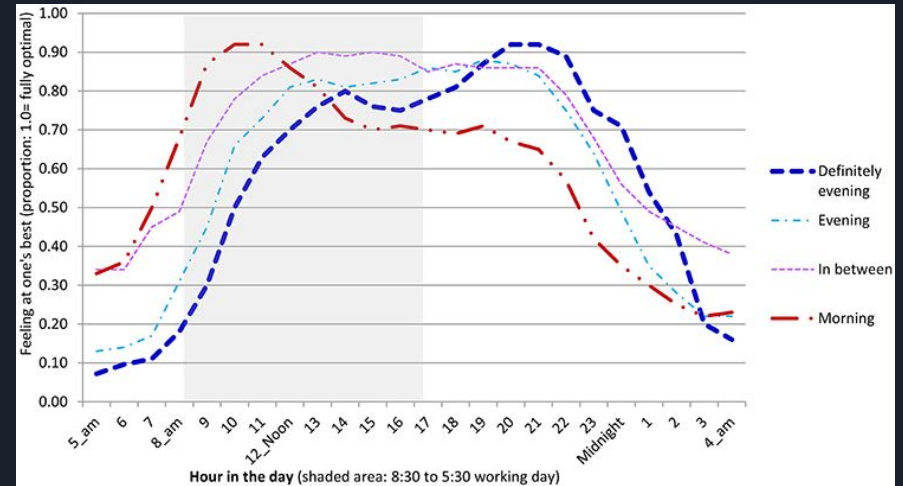


**Dwight Owings**  
Research Analyst/Developer

# University Students and Tutoring

- University students study at no specific time of the day. <sup>6</sup>
- Some studies even suggest that **more students study at night as opposed to daytime.** <sup>7</sup>

Distribution of university students' study times



Source: Evans MDR, Kelley P and Kelley J (2017)

# The Private Tutoring Market

- Private tutoring is a growing industry.
- However, there is no centralized network for tutors.
- Most tutor-hosting services only tend to focus in the online tutoring market.





# University Students & Tutoring

- **Student-to-student interactions are effective**; tutees learn more cognitively through bonds with their peers.<sup>9</sup>
- PAL is a peer mediated instructional program where students tutor their peers.<sup>10</sup>
- Peer Assisted Learning Programs (PAL) proves that **students tutoring other students is effective**.<sup>11</sup>
- University **students are willing to tutor** people what they know in their free time **if it is easy to find people** to tutor.<sup>12</sup>

# The Current State of University Tutoring

- **Take ODU as one example.**
  - Tutoring resources are not centralized.<sup>5</sup>
  - Less than half of course-specific tutoring covers 300 Level and above.<sup>2,3</sup>
  - Tutoring centers are predominantly opened exclusively during the daytime.<sup>2</sup>
  - **Not enough tutors** working in tutoring centers.
  - **Many students qualify to tutor**, yet they don't work for the university as tutors.
  - There are many students on campus willing to tutor, they are not being utilized, and **students need the help.**

## TUTORING RESOURCES ON CAMPUS SPRING 2019 odu.edu/success/academic/tutoring

### TUTORING CENTERS

#### Language Learning Center

Free language tutoring and much more  
Batten Arts & Letters 3061  
odu.edu/languagelearningcenter

#### Math & Science Resource Center (MSRC-Chem)

Drop-in tutoring for CHEM 103-214  
Oceanography 146  
odu.edu/sci/msrc

#### Math & Science Resource Center (MSRC-Math)

Drop-in tutoring for MATH 101-200, 205, 302, 307, 335, PSYC 317, and Praxis Core Math  
Learning Commons 1312 odu.edu/sci/msrc  
Drop-in or online tutoring for MATH 302, 335 (Penninsula Higher Ed Center)

#### MATH Lab

Math sessions and open lab for MATH 211, 212, and 312  
DRGS 2114  
odu.edu/math/lab

#### Physics Learning Center

Drop-in tutoring & collaboration space for Physics courses  
Physical Sciences Building 2nd floor Atrium  
odu.edu/physics/resources/learning-center

#### Writing Center

Appointment-based assistance for writing assignments in all courses  
Learning Commons 1307  
odu.edu/allcenters/writing-center

### OTHER SUPPORT RESOURCES

#### ePortfolio Assistance

Appointment-based help with ePortfolio and digital assignments  
Learning Commons 1313  
odu.edu/success/programs/eportfolio/resources

#### MATH/HELP

Math Course-Specific Help Directory  
Directory of math and stat course tutoring resources  
odu.edu/math/help

#### Office of Educational Accessibility

Educational support for students who experience disabilities  
Student Success Center 1021  
odu.edu/educationalaccessibility

#### Peer Academic Coaching

One-on-one meetings to improve on academic and self-management skills  
Learning Center, Student Success 2<sup>nd</sup> floor commons area  
odu.edu/success/programs/coaching

#### Supplemental Instruction

Group study sessions for CHEM 103-213, MATH 102-103, 162-163, 200, 205, PSYC317, and Praxis Core Math  
Oceanography 131 and various locations  
odu.edu/sci/msrc

#### Student Support Services

Academic assistance, including tutoring, for SSS students who are first-generation, pell eligible, and/or have a disability  
Student Success Center 1104  
odu.edu/ss

#### Workshops

Academic workshops are offered by request. Faculty, student organization groups, etc. may request a workshop or collaborate with CHIP staff to customize a workshop that meet their specific academic needs  
Learning Center, Student Success Center 2<sup>nd</sup> floor commons area  
odu.edu/success/academic/workshops

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# Problem Statement

- In general, **tutoring services** available to university students **are limited** in scope, do not provide flexibility, and lack a centralized platform for promotion.
- **Students** willing to provide tutoring services **lack a tool to promote** those services.

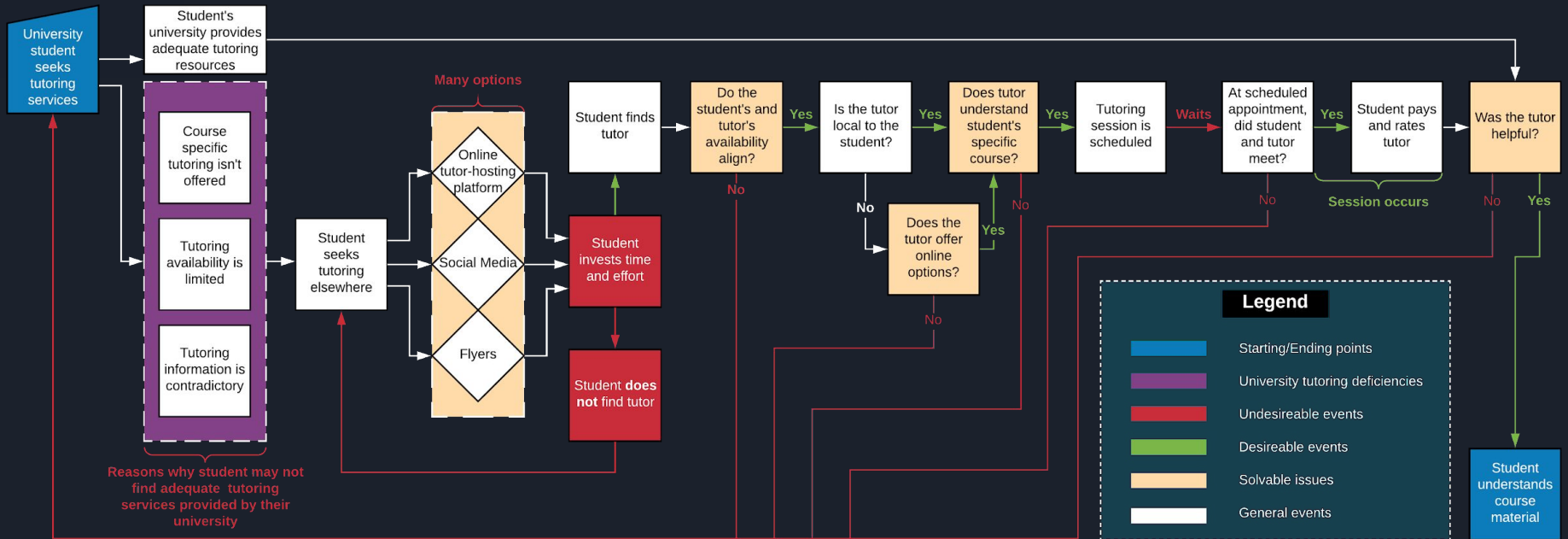




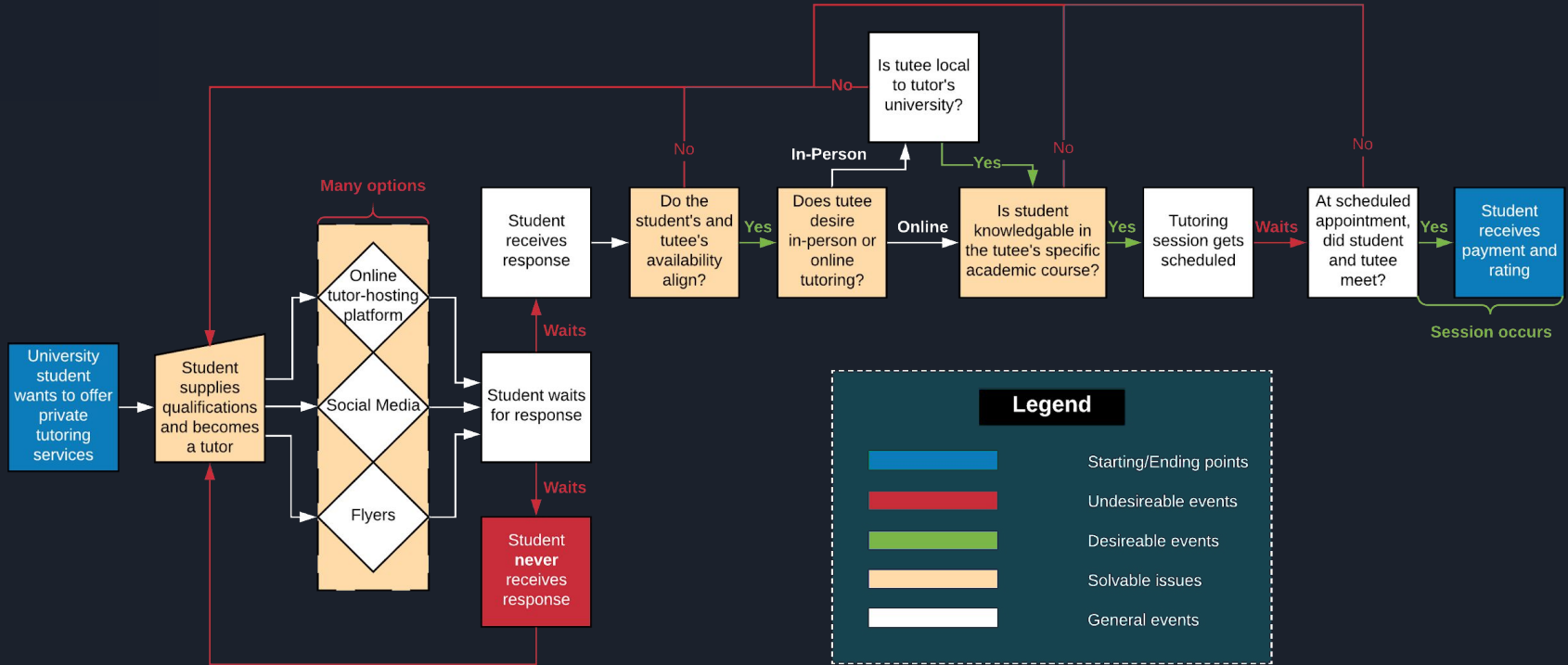
# Problem Characteristics

- **Limited scope**, i.e., Tutoring is only offered for about 5% of all available ODU courses. <sup>1,3</sup>
- Tutoring **services do not encompass all study times**. <sup>2</sup>
- **Information inconsistency**, i.e., Information available about university tutoring services is dispersed and not always accurate. <sup>2</sup>
- Current **information** regarding when and where certain course-specific tutoring sessions is **not always reliable**.
- **Private tutors are complete unknowns**. Students who find it necessary to seek tutoring outside of the university cannot be confident that the available services will be a good match for university-specific course material.
- University **students do not have an adequate platform to advertise** their tutoring services.

# Current Process - Students Seeking Tutoring

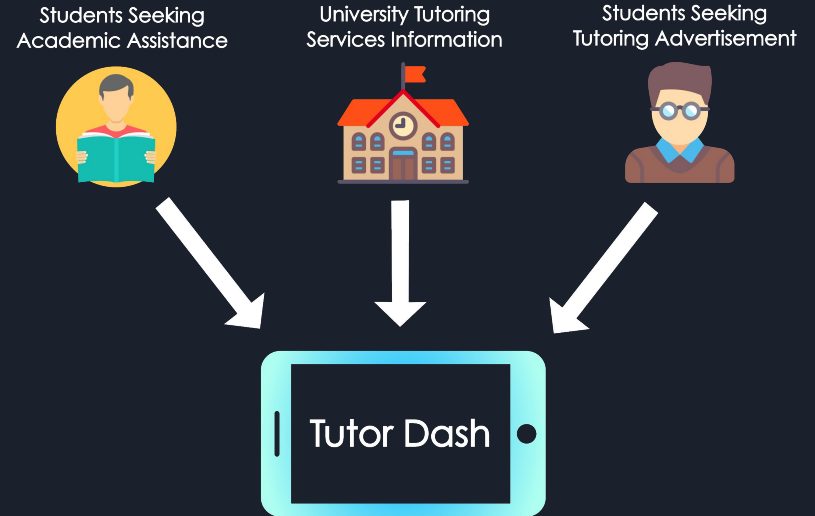


# Current Process - Tutors Seeking Advertisement



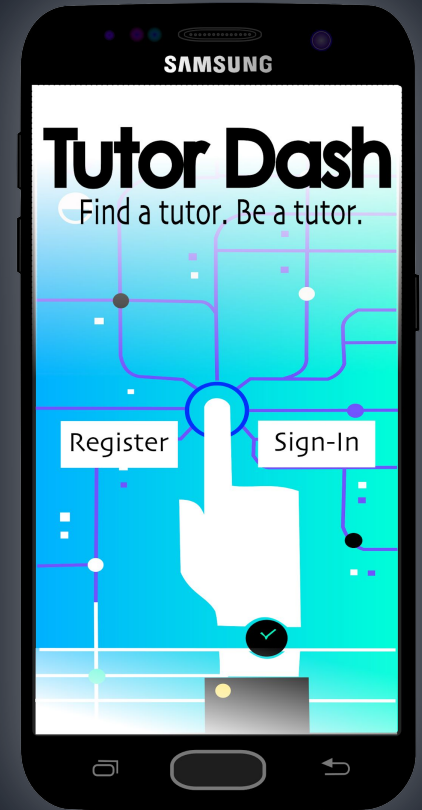
# Solution Statement

- Tutor Dash is an application-based service that **unifies university students** who are interested in tutoring with university students who desire course-specific tutoring in real-time.
- **Tutor Dash provides an extension of any university's current tutoring services** so that students can receive help for all courses 24/7.



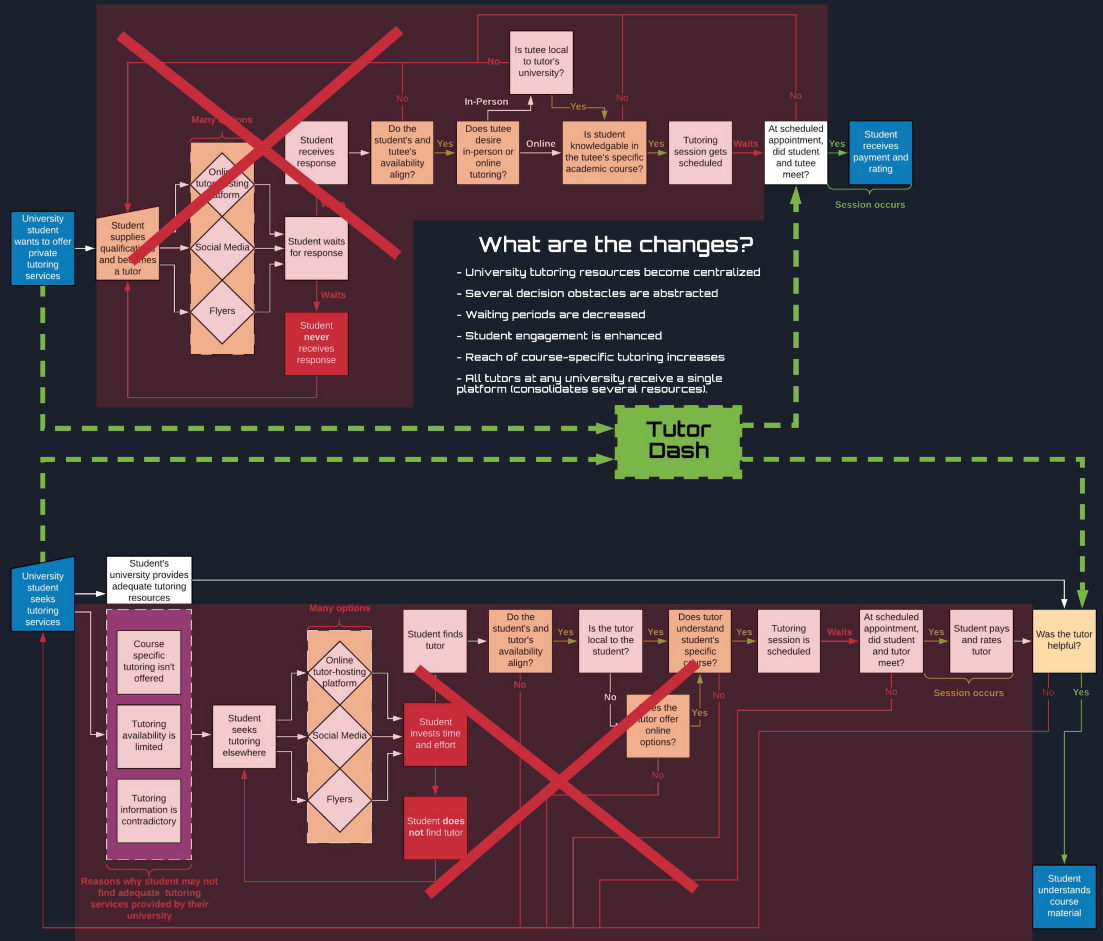
# Solution Characteristics

- Only university students and tutoring center staff can use Tutor Dash.
- Allows Information to be updated frequently by the university's student tutors in real-time.
- Every tutor is required to provide verification.
- Implements a rating system for quality assurance.
- Qualified students can tutor in any class available at their university.
- Tutors & tutees can make themselves available at any desired time.
- Notifications will be sent to connect participating tutors/tutees.
- Tutoring center Check-in's & Check-out's.
- Mechanism for payments is included within application.

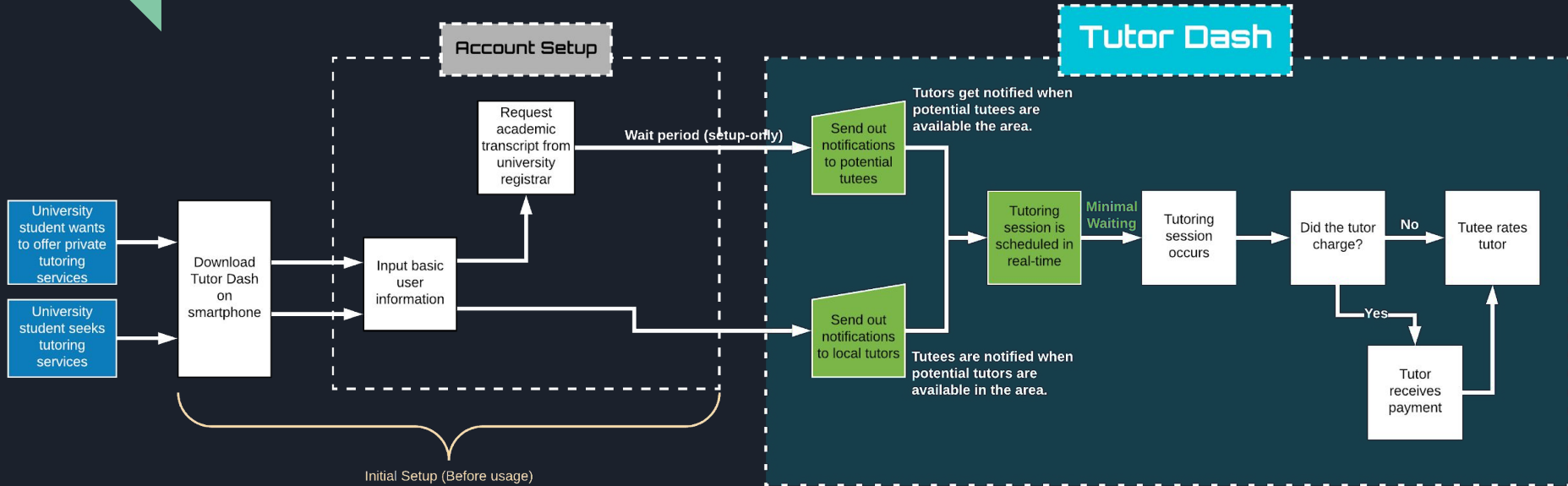


# Tutor Dash's Solution

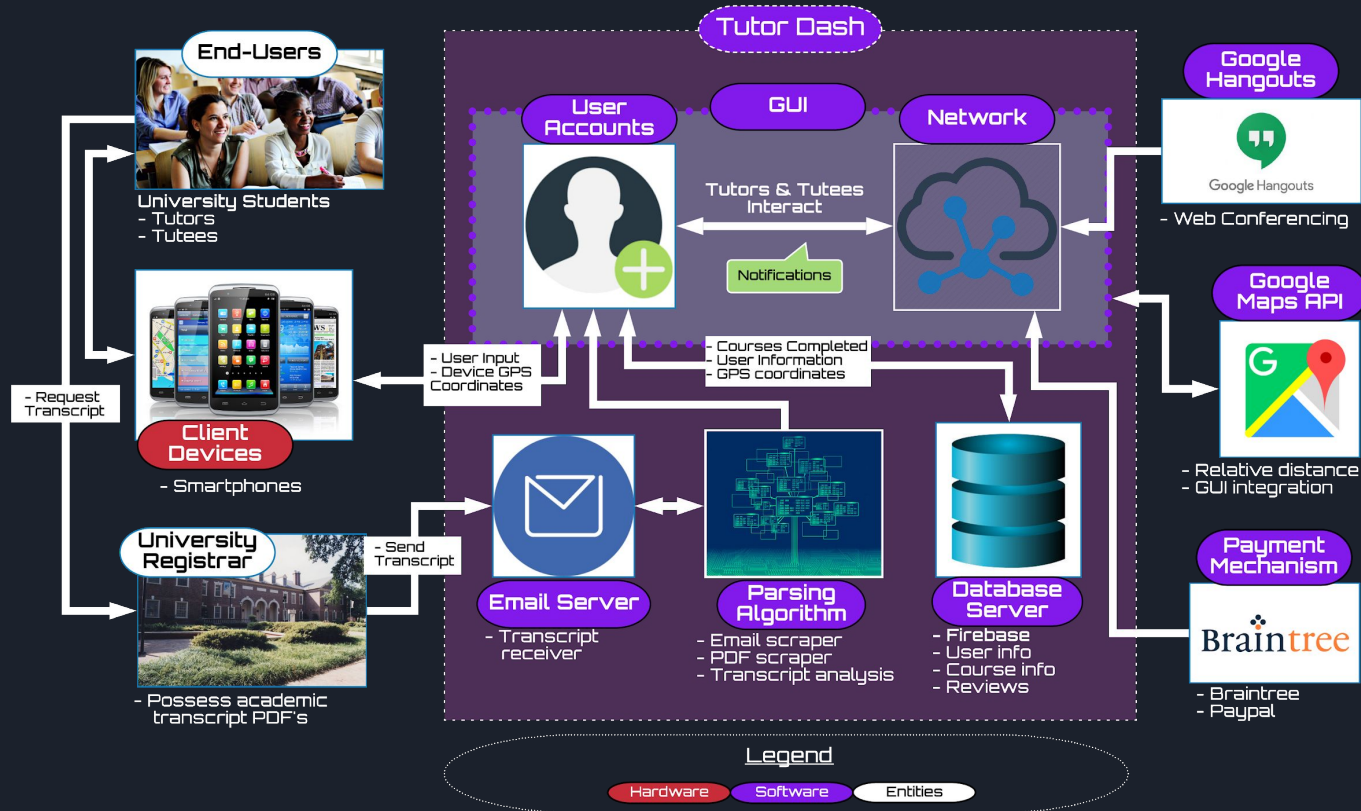
- Merge the solutions to both problems into one tool.
- Get rid of excessive options.
- **Less is more**



# Solution Process Flow



# Major Functional Component Diagram







# What Tutor Dash Won't Do

- Not an “official” university tutoring resource, rather a tool for presenting information on a unique platform.
- Will not make any money off of existing university tutoring resources.
- Will not interfere with current university tutoring resources; only improve advertisement to extend reach.
- Will not violate the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).
- Cannot guarantee there is a tutor for everyone online 24/7.
- Cannot prevent students from voluntarily violating the honor code.
- Will not be a hosting platform for established tutoring businesses.

# Customers

- University students seeking tutoring services
- University students interested in tutoring



# End Users

- **University Student bodies**
  - University students looking for tutors
  - University students looking for tutees.
  - University students looking for ways to make extra money by tutoring in their free time.





# Benefits to Customer Base

- Expands the scope of any university's course-specific tutoring program(s).
- Decreases availability conflicts.
- Tutors aren't waiting around for responses.
- Reduces frequency of cancellations by providing real-time scheduling.
- As tutoring increases, **DFWI rates decrease**. Students save GPA and money.
- **Students won't have to go out of their way in search of tutoring services** since they are contained conveniently in one place.
- **Alleviates frustration** in regards to contradictory information. **Improves information consistency**.

# Competition

	US	DIRECT COMPETITORS					INDIRECT COMPETITORS	
Features	Tutor Dash	Tutor.com	Tutor Matching Service	Skooli	Wyzant	HeyTutor	Care.com	Public Facebook Group
Offers various university course-specific tutoring	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Allows qualified undergraduate students to be tutors	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Sends notifications about local tutors/tutees	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Qualified tutors are constrained to university communities	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Provides real-time scheduling capabilities	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Available as mobile application	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Includes online tutoring options	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓
Includes in-person tutoring options	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Provides tutor ratings	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Establishes hourly rate ceilings	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✗
Requires tutor verification/validation	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Does not require subscription commitment	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Provides 24/7 scheduling	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

# More on Tutor.com

- ODU currently has a trial of tutor.com.
- Tutor.com is a purely online-based tutoring service that specializes in real-time scheduling 24/7.
- This offers **only 8 additional courses** exclusively covered by tutor.com.<sup>3,18</sup>
- **Students cannot be tutors** on tutor.com.
- Helps to expand available tutoring resources, **BUT doesn't help make use of existing underutilized resources.**
- Doesn't unify and engage university student bodies.
- **By itself, tutor.com is not an efficient solution** to the problem. Students are less likely to accept help from tutors who are not students. Universities still have underutilized resources.



[Home](#) > [Student Success](#) > [Academic Development](#) > [Campus Tutoring](#)

## NEW TRIAL: Tutor.com - 24/7 Online Tutoring

24/7 online tutoring via Tutor.com is available for a **trial period**. Access to the online tutoring platform is **limited to students enrolled in pre-selected courses** (see below). Please use the links in the table below to connect with an online tutor.

24/7 support will be available beginning Monday, March 4, and will continue until Sunday, June 30, 2019.

[Connect to Tutor.com NOW](#)

**Username:** youremail@odu.edu

**Password:** Check your email for pre-assigned password.\*

\*Only students currently enrolled in pilot courses are granted access to the platform.



# Why Is This Worth Doing?

- There is an unsatisfied demand for tutors at universities.
- Relevancy: As the private tutoring market expands, the demand for private tutoring resources increases.
- Universities can benefit from a more centralized tutoring information resource.
- Students can benefit both intellectually and socially.
- DFWI - Drop/Failed/Withdraw/Incomplete ratings will improve with student understanding.
- Students receive more tutoring opportunities.

# In Summary

- High demand for tutors at universities.
- Qualified students interested in tutoring are an untapped resource at universities.
- Need for a more centralization of tutoring resources within various university environments.
- Tutor Dash makes this connection obvious.







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**Questions?**